NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS

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For Immediate Release

DECEMBER 7, 2006

<u>CENTRALIA RESIDENTS SENTENCED</u> FOR ROLES IN METHAMPHETAMINE CONSPIRACY

Randy G. Massey, Acting United States Attorney for the Southern District of Illinois, announced today that on December 6, 2006, **JERRY D. HILTIBIDAL**, age 27, **RHONDA M. MOSS**, age 36, **JASON L. GOFF**, age 24, and **AMANDA M. MARCUM**, age 20, all of Centralia, Illinois, and **HENRY E. ROWCLIFF**, age 34 of Junction City, Illinois, were sentenced in United States District Court in Benton, Illinois. The five co-defendants had previously pled guilty to conspiracy to manufacture more than 500 grams of methamphetamine. **HILTIBIDAL** and **ROWCLIFF** were sentenced to 240 months' imprisonment. **MOSS**, **GOFF**, and **MARCUM** were sentenced to 135 months' imprisonment, 120 months' imprisonment, and 87 months' imprisonment, respectively.

The violation took place from November of 2002 through April 5, 2006, in Jefferson, Marion, Clinton, St. Clair, and Washington Counties, within the Southern District of Illinois, Pike and Woodford Counties in the Central District of Illinois, and in Florida, Indiana, Ohio, Missouri, and Kentucky. Codefendants have previously been sentenced to 121 months' imprisonment and 120 months' imprisonment for their roles in the methamphetamine conspiracy. One co-defendant has pled guilty is awaiting sentencing. thirteen co-defendants have pled not guilty and are awaiting a February 12, 2007, jury trial.

The investigation was conducted by the Clinton County Sheriff's Department, Illinois State Police and Drug Enforcement Administration pursuant to their participation in the Project Safe Neighborhoods Initiative. Project Safe Neighborhoods is a joint and cooperative effort of the United States Attorney's Office, and federal, state and local law enforcement agencies directed at removing guns and drugs from our communities.

The case is assigned to Assistant United States Attorney Amanda A. Robertson for prosecution.